

FISCAL 2005-2006 BUDGET HEARING MINUTES
Lancaster County Board of Commissioners
Tuesday, August 16, 2005
Commissioners Hearing Room, Room 112
First Floor, County-City Building
7:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present: Larry Hudkins, Chair
Deb Schorr, Vice Chair
Ray Stevens
Bob Workman

Commissioners Absent: Bernie Heier

Others Present: Dave Kroeker, Budget and Fiscal Officer
Trish Owen, Chief Deputy County Clerk

The Lancaster County Board of Commissioners' public hearing on the Lancaster County Fiscal 2005-2006 budget was convened at 7:00 p.m..

Lincoln City Libraries

Carol Conner, Lincoln City Libraries Director, appeared and stated their funding request is \$633,923 (2.4 percent increase) and will support library services to all Lancaster County residents including access to Bennet Martin Public Library, access to all branch libraries, home outreach by mail, summer reading programs, bi-weekly bookmobile services to 11 County sites and remote access to the library catalog and database.

Larry Hudkins, Chair of the Lancaster County Board of Commissioners, opened the Fiscal Year 2005-2006 budget hearing and gave a brief opening statement regarding the overall budget indicating that it does not reflect any increases in fees. He stated it has been a difficult budget year for the County due to rising costs relating to General Assistance, Corrections, Juvenile Services Center and the cost of fuel.

Paul Edwards, Lincoln Independent Business Association (LIBA), appeared and introduced the Executive Director of the Lincoln Independent Business Association, Coby Mach.

Coby Mach, Executive Director of LIBA, appeared and stated the County made good business decisions in prepaying many of the County's outstanding bonds and self-insuring the County's health benefit plans, however, he criticized the overall increase in operating expenses for the County. He stated the total General Fund operating costs, which increased by seven percent, was over their standard recommendation of costs increasing by inflation plus population growth and could create a burden on residents of the County.

The Chair asked if anyone else wished to testify.

No one appeared and the hearing was closed.

MOTION: Workman moved and Schorr seconded to direct the County Attorney's Office to draft a resolution adopting the 2005-2006 Lancaster County Budget, with a tax rate of 28.41 cents per \$100 of value, for the August 23rd, 2005 County Board meeting. Schorr, Stevens, Workman and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

MOTION: Schorr moved and Stevens seconded adjournment at 7:33 p.m.. Workman, Schorr, Stevens and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

Patricia Owen
Chief Deputy County Clerk